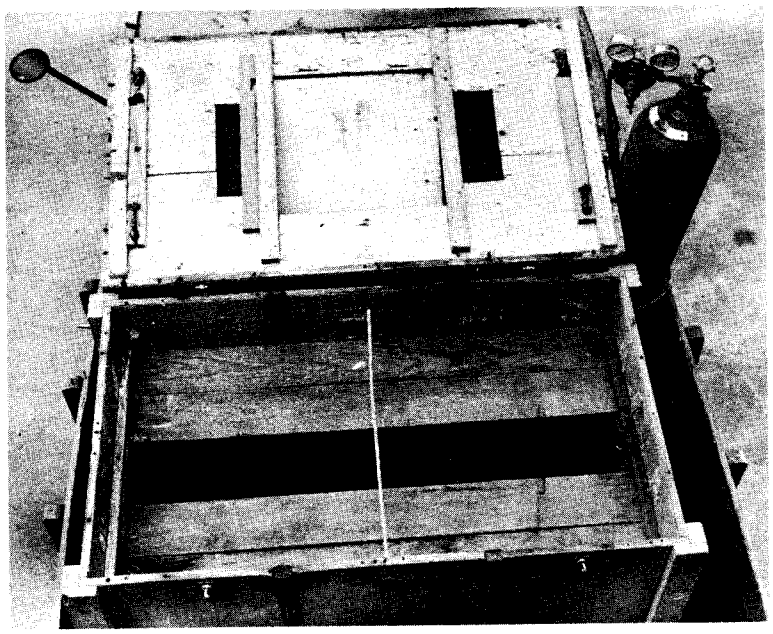
A METHOD OF TRANSPORTING STRIPED BASS

During March and April 1962, 194 striped bass (Roccus saxatilis) that averaged 2 pounds in weight and 16 inches in fork length were transported in six 150-mile trips from pound nets in Albemarle Sound to experimental tanks at the laboratory without mortality or noticeable injury.



A 200-gallon tank mounted on a 3/4-ton truck was used to transport the fish. Constructed of 3/4-inch marine plywood, the tank was 30 inches wide, 52 inches long, and 31 inches deep. Eleven-inch baffles were placed 8 inches below the top to reduce sloshing of water. In transport, a pressure-controlled cylinder was used to supply oxygen to the tank water through two aeration stones fastened to the tank bottom. Dissolved oxygen was maintained above 7 p.p.m.; pH ranged from 7.0 to 7.7, and temperature ranged from 11.0° to 17.6° C.

Light, inexpensive, and mountable on a light truck, this tank expedites the transport of live fish from isolated areas to the laboratory.

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